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## INFLUENZA ACTIVITY INCREASING IN MICHIGAN

The estimated flu activity level in Michigan was upgraded from 'local' activity to the next higher level of 'regional' activity, reflecting recent increases in laboratory-confirmed individual influenza cases in several regions of the state, including the Southeastern and Central regions. Respiratory outbreaks in congregate facilities have been recently reported from the Southwestern, Central and North Regions. Two pediatric influenza-associated deaths have been reported in Michigan. The majority of currently circulating influenza viruses are influenza A(H3N2); influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 and influenza B have also been detected and the majority have matched this year's influenza vaccine. It is not late to get vaccinated or vaccinate your patients. MDCH [developed a flyer](#) to remind providers on the importance of vaccination.

Additional influenza surveillance information is available in this week's [Michigan FluFocus](#).

## INFLUENZA RELATED NEWS ARTICLES

### Michigan

- [Flu season hits early in Michigan, closes schools](#)
- [Michigan Residents Urged To Get Flu Shots After Sudden Increase In Cases](#)
- [Flu season: Activity beginning to increase; peak may be earlier than usual](#)
- [Nearly 90 percent of MidMichigan Health employees have received flu vaccine](#)

## QUADRIVALENT INFLUENZA VACCINE

- [GlaxoSmithKline wins U.S. approval for new flu vaccine](#)
- [FDA information on Fluarix Quadrivalent](#)

## FLU SURVEILLANCE IN AFRICA

An ['Influenza in Africa'](#) *Journal of Infectious Diseases* supplement published on December 15, 2012, gives new data on the burden and epidemiology of seasonal flu in Africa and sheds light on the impact of the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, which tested many countries' relatively new preparedness plans, laboratory networks and surveillance systems.

Related CDC Article: [African Countries Gain Ground in Fight Against Influenza](#)

## INFLUENZA PANDEMICS

- [H5N1 researchers question proposed HHS funding framework](#)

The University of Michigan Center for the History of Medicine published a [digital story of Grand Rapids](#) experience with the 1918-1919 Influenza Epidemic.

## INFLUENZA RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

### State Health Care Personnel Laws

A [recent study](#) in *Vaccine* concluded that state laws are the most effective tool to ensure high vaccination levels among health care personnel (HCP). Nineteen states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws that require certain HCP to receive influenza vaccination. The laws vary in the extent to which they incorporate the elements of a model vaccination policy. The researchers state that "a model law would help increase uptake of influenza vaccine among health care workers."

Related news article: [State law and influenza vaccination of health care personnel](#)

### Effectiveness of Influenza Triage

This week the *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine* published, "[Feasibility of Web-Based Self-Triage by Parents of Children With Influenza-Like Illness](#)."

Related News Article: [Flu Triage With Online Test for Kids Not Specific Enough](#)

### College Students

Only one in [five college students](#) at eight North Carolina universities reported getting a flu shot during the 2009-2010 flu season, according to a new study in the *Journal of American College Health*.

### Additional Journal Articles

[Low effectiveness undermines promotion of seasonal influenza vaccine](#)

## FLU VACCINES REQUIRED TO BE ENTERED INTO MCIR

As a reminder, providers are required to report flu immunizations administered to every child less than 20 years old within 72 hours of administration into the [Michigan Care Improvement Registry \(MCIR\)](#). Please ensure you are entering your doses for adults as well!

## FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

CDC: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

HHS: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

## PARTNER UPDATES

[Alana's Foundation](#) recently published their [bi-annual newsletter](#).

FluBytes is distributed to MDCH flu partners for informational and communication purposes. Please feel free to distribute widely. Archived editions of FluBytes can be found [here](#). To access archived editions of MI FluFocus click [here](#).



Give the gift that won't  
keep on giving.  
Get vaccinated this holiday season.

Available at: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu) ➡ Click on "Flu Gallery"